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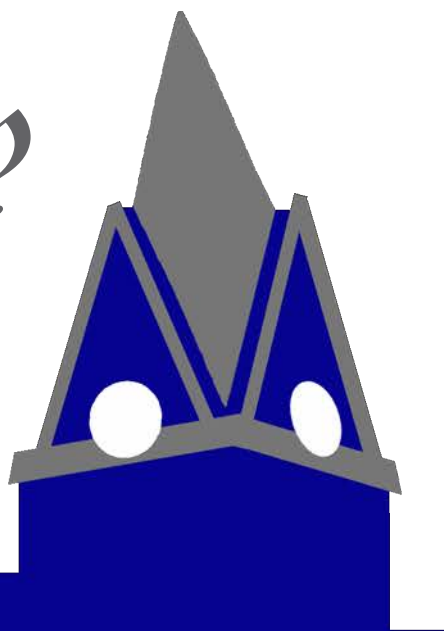
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The Xavier University NewsWire

Plat justitia, ruat coelum

Published since 1915 by the students of Xavier University

Volume XCIX Issue 21



February 19, 2014

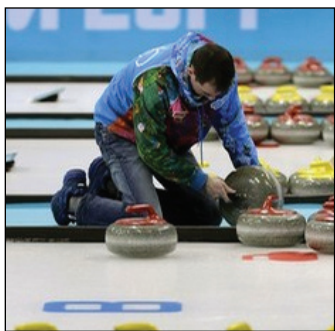
News



Xavier student athletes worked with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to contribute to a boy's wish to travel to Disney World. Sports Editor Tim Wilmes has the scoop.

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Staff Writers Robert Jamieson and Kyle Isaacs outline everything you need to know about curling and the biathlon in this week's issue.

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Features Editor Hollis Connors discusses VITA, an accounting service program providing tax assistance, in this week's feature.

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Tuition to increase for 2014-15

By RICH MEYER
Staff Writer

Students will see another increase in their tuition bills for the 2014-2015 school year.

Last week, Xavier administration along with the university's Board of Trustees announced the finalized rates for tuition and fees for the next academic year. Next year, the tuition will be about 3 percent higher for full-time students than in the 2013-14 school year.

The extra funds from the tuition increase will go directly back into the university and will be used to offset extra costs forecasted in the next school year.

"For the year ahead this includes new academic programs, Xavier Way initiatives, the renovation of Alter Hall and compensation for faculty and staff," Provost and Chief Academic Officer Scott Chadwick said.

"The increase is necessary to provide (students) with a solid, meaningful and fulfilling education," Chadwick said in an announcement on the Portal.

Other causes for the increase that come from outside of the university were also taken into account when finalizing the budget.

"External factors such as the Consumer Price Index, behavior from our competitors and the

economy are taken into consideration," Chadwick said.

"It helps make it possible for us to continue to sustain and enhance faculty and staff development, expand technology services, increase financial aid, enhance co-curricular opportunities, focus on student leadership development, improve career services support, increase the number of full-time faculty members and foster more

integrated learning," he said.

Several committees and members of the administration met to discuss the budget and any increases that may need to take place. The tuition hike accommodated new expenses for the university while attempting to keep costs for students as low as possible.

"Staff from Financial Administration meet with staff from Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management to analyze any possible tuition increase and its effects on the university and students," Chadwick said. "A recommendation from that group is made to the UPRC (University Planning and Resourcing Council)."

The final rates for tuition and fees for the 2014-15 academic year, including those for room and board as well as payment options, can be found at www.xavier.edu/costs.

Tuition Facts and Figures: 2014-15

Tuition per semester for the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Social Sciences, Health and Education will raise to \$16,515 and \$33,030 yearly.

Tuition per semester in the Williams College of Business will raise to \$17,105 and \$34,210 yearly.

Meal plans will range from \$420 to \$2,450 per semester.

A Commons apartment will cost \$4,370 per semester.

SGA Executives elected for 2014-15 academic year in largest voting turnout in SGA history

Colleen Reynolds, Shelby Alig and Thomas Edney win SGA Executive election

By JUSTIN WORTHING
Staff Writer

Juniors Colleen Reynolds, Shelby Alig and Thomas Edney were elected to the 2014-15 Student Government Association (SGA) Executive Board last week.

This year set a record with the highest number of votes recorded in SGA history, totaling 1,531.

The Executives-elect are already feeling the weight of their new responsibilities and beginning to work on implementing their platform.

"What I'm most excited about is that we can already get to work," President-elect Colleen Reynolds said. "We're not sworn in until April, but we can already meet with administrators and (discuss) some of the ideas we've formulated. We're also meeting with the current Executives now to start working on the budget process; that's probably the biggest thing that we'll be doing for the next few weeks."

Reynolds is SGA's first president who was not formerly a senator. She is also the first female president in four years.

"(Edney and I) have never been involved in SGA, but (Alig) has, and I couldn't think of a stronger



Photo courtesy of Facebook

Juniors Colleen Reynolds, Shelby Alig and Thomas Edney were elected as the SGA Executive team for the 2014-15 school year, serving as President, Legislative Vice President and Administrative Vice President, respectively.

senator," Reynolds said of Alig. "She will be the Legislative Vice President and will be overseeing the senate. Having her will be really helpful."

"(Edney) is also a very strong leader. He served in the conduct board and is primarily known for being a part of the athletics department. Not being a part of SGA makes him unbiased in how SGA operates, and what he thinks could change in student govern-

ment itself."

In retrospect, Reynolds enjoyed the process but feels there should be some changes to some of the rules of campaigning.

"It was tough with four tickets, and I think students noticed the pressure on campus," Reynolds said. "All the campaigns tried to make this as friendly as we could and make sure it was as genuine as we all could be."

Reynolds also extends her grat-

itude to those who supported her team during the campaign.

"We are so grateful for our team putting in all the hours of work they did, really backing us up and getting out the word about our platform," Reynolds said. "That is what made this the most enjoyable. Having that support coming from all sides, surrounded by people who believe in and stand for — we really, really appreciated that."

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World News
in Brief

Compiled by Andrew Koch

U.N. condemns North Korea

Investigators from the United Nations Commission of Inquiry accused the North Korean government, including Supreme Leader Kim Jong-Un, of repeated crimes against humanity in a 372-page report filed on Feb. 17. In the report, investigators allege that the North Korean government is guilty of murder, starvation, abduction, rape and forced infanticide, among other crimes. The report cites testimonies from North Koreans who have defected to the United States, South Korea and Japan. The head of the Commission said that the crimes committed by the government are “strikingly similar” to those committed by Nazi Germany in World War II, and that Kim could face charges before the International Criminal Court.

Venezuela expels U.S. diplomats

Amidst political unrest and widespread protests against the Venezuelan government that have resulted in the deaths of four people, Venezuelan officials announced on Feb. 17 that three United States diplomats had 48 hours to leave the country. The Venezuelan government has accused the United States of encouraging protests against the government and of plotting to assassinate President Nicolás Maduro. Leopoldo López, the *de facto* leader of opposition to the government, turned himself in to security forces after disappearing from the public eye for several days.

Four killed in Thai protests

Three protestors and a police officer were killed after clashes between security forces and an estimated 6,000 protestors on Feb. 18 in Bangkok, Thailand. The opposition, which has been active for months, accuses Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra of corruption and demands that she step down from power.

Students to host dance marathon

By MONICA WELCH
Staff Writer

Xavier University Dance Marathon (XUDM) is inviting students to participate in a full afternoon of dancing and fundraising for the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital and the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals.

Now in its eighth year, XUDM continues to raise money for families that cannot afford treatment costs for their children.

As their “For the Kids” slogan suggests, the money raised goes to the Children’s Miracle Network, which distributes money to children’s hospitals across the nation, including the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, in order to support families in need.

In the past, XUDM has raised approximately \$4,000 each year.

“Our goal is \$5,000, an extra \$1,000 (from last year’s donations), but we’ve already raised \$2,000 from Kroger from our event in the fall and from donations online,” XUDM Co-Chair Emily Roell said.

DJ SAB from Cincinnati’s Kiss 107 will be the DJ for the marathon.

Through the focus of the event this year will be on the dancing, there will also be cookie deco-

rating, Wii’s “Just Dance,” a 20 minute Zumba session at 4 p.m., a visit from the Xavier mascots, a bounce house, a photo booth and a raffle.

in attendance this year with children coming from a diverse background, including a three-year-old and a Xavier first-year.

The Dance Marathon will take place from 3 to 9 p.m. on Feb. 22 in the O’Connor Sports Center.

To participate, students can register directly and receive an extra raffle ticket at the XUDM table from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. all week in the Gallagher Student Center or from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21 outside the Hoff Dining Commons.

If students do not pre-register, they can pay \$5 at the door and receive a raffle ticket. T-shirts will be \$5 and raffle tickets will be \$1.

Raffle tickets will also be randomly handed out throughout the event to dancers.

Students who raise \$20 via email fundraising can get into the event for free and receive a free T-shirt or five free raffle tickets.

“Every year we hope for more and more people. Every year it’s gotten bigger, and we’ve raised more money each year,” Derstadt said.

For more information, visit the marathon’s website at <http://www.helpmakemiracles.org/event/xudm>.



Photo courtesy of Xavier Magazine

Students will dance for six hours to raise money for children, as they did at last year’s event (above).

Raffle prizes will include a Samsung tablet, tickets to the Cincinnati Reds, Kings Island and the Newport Aquarium, gift cards to various restaurants and a subscription to Yoga Alive.

There will also be different foods served throughout the event, including Piada, Noodles & Co., Chipotle, Naked Pizza, Yagöot, Buffalo Wild Wings and sub sandwiches.

“We have families from Children’s come in and share their stories at the top of each hour,” XUDM Co-Chair Lindsey Derstadt said.

There will be eight families

Center for International Education
hosts WorldQuest team trivia contest

By ANDREW KOCH
Campus News Editor

The Center for International Education (CIE) hosted its annual WorldQuest competition on Feb. 14 in Cintas Center’s Duff Banquet Center.

The competition tests teams’ knowledge of recent world events and trivia, pairing international and local students with Xavier faculty and staff. Twenty-four teams of faculty and students, including groups representing the Actuarial Science Club, the International Business Association and the Student Enrichment office, entered this year’s competition.

WorldQuest’s organizers hope the event will inform students of other cultures and bring the Xavier community together.

“I see WorldQuest as an educational event not only aimed at educating local citizens but everyone (in the community), and creating an environment where we can build team spirit and collaboration skills,” Claire Archibald, a graduate assistant in the CIE, said.

Archibald also hopes the event will help students better understand the challenges facing other countries, like the current political turmoil in Venezuela.

“(WorldQuest) creates pas-

sion in people to fight for others’ rights and against oppressors and dictators, but we have to foster the knowledge before we can foster the passion,” Archibald said.



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsuhita

The WorldQuest 2014 champion Radicals (left to right): Sean Gravelle, Dr. Bin Yu, Dr. Minnie Catral, Dr. Esmeralda Nastase, Dr. Hsing-Ye Kao, Dr. Daniel Otero, Drew Phillips and Fr. Joseph Wagner, S.J.

The team sponsored by the Department of Mathematics, The Radicals, won this year’s competition.

“Apart from the fact that events like WorldQuest encourage people to expand their awareness of world cultures and events, it’s a great opportunity for students, faculty and staff all to work together in a way that everyone’s contribution can be valuable,” Fr. Joseph Wagner, S.J., of The Radicals said. “More than a couple times I was reminded of how much more my students know about some things than I do.”

Students who participat-

ed in WorldQuest also recognized the event’s potential for collaboration.

“It was really fun to compete with such a talented group where

everyone was able to contribute their own knowledge,” senior Sean Gravelle, another member of The Radicals, said. “It was quite thrilling for the math department team to win once again.”

The winning Radicals team also included student Drew Phillips, Dr. Hsing-Yi Kao from the history department, Dr. Bin Yu from the political science department and mathematics professors Dr. Minnie Catral, Dr. Daniel Otero and Dr. Esmeralda Nastase.

Though The Radicals won the big prize of the evening, the Perfect Passive Progressives, a group of business majors, took second place and the team representing Voices of Solidarity came in third.

Previous World Quest winners include the Spanish Club, the Intensive English Program and the Biology Club.

Student athletes contribute
to Make-A-Wish program

By TIM WILMES
Sports Editor

Xavier University student athletes presented over \$5,000 to a six-year-old boy through the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Landyn, the recipient of the donation, suffers from spina bifida and he and his family will put the money toward achieving his wish to go to Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

The money was raised through the Student Athlete Activities Committee (SAAC) as a partner with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to make Landyn’s wish come true.

Make-A-Wish works to provide children with life-threatening illnesses one “wish,” like Landyn’s trip to Disney World.

Student athletes spent two weeks collecting donations for the cause and by the end of the campaign, the committee collected more than double their initial goal of \$2,200.

The money was presented to Landyn and his family at the men’s basketball game against Providence on Feb. 8 at Cintas Center.

After the game, senior Ariel McNair from the women’s golf team gave the family a tour of the arena, followed by a visit to the postgame press conference in

which Landyn got to meet SAAC president and men’s basketball junior center Matt Stainbrook.

Track & Field senior Adrija Taraska, who helped organize the fundraiser with junior midfielder Katie Schweer of the women’s soccer team, was incredibly pleased with the outcome of the event.

“We had such a huge amount of support from the student body as well as at the game and we could not have made this happen, Landyn’s wish happen, without them,” Taraska said.

Not only was the experience meaningful for the family receiving the donation, but the fundraiser and event at the game were clearly impactful for the student athletes who partook in the experience.

“As Xavier student athletes, we’ve been given so much and the opportunities that we have are unreal, so it’s really all we can do to give back a little bit of our time, a little bit of our effort,” McNair told goxavier.com of her experience with Landyn.

As a result of the willingness of Xavier student athletes to be charitable with their time and the Xavier community’s donations, a little boy’s wish will come true as he gets to experience a carefree day at Disney World.

Correction:

In last week’s article on the Assistive Technology Learning Center, the text should read that the lab offers a “text-to-speech program’s Read and Write Gold.”

Xavier to offer a new Masters program in Urban Sustainability

BY RICH MEYER
Staff Writer

Students interested in sustainability will be able to continue their education with a new opportunity coming to Xavier University next year.

The university is developing a new Master of Arts in Urban Sustainability and Resilience. The degree intends to educate students about issues related to urban sustainability. It is the first in a series of programs concerning sustainability that the university has introduced recently.

Xavier faculty members John Fairfield, Kathleen Smythe, Nancy Bertaux and Becky Luce, along with students interested in the field of sustainability have been discussing the best design for the program.

"The program is designed to support students going into business fields as sustainability coordinators and a whole myriad of job titles that are designed to improve a company's profits and corporate citizenship through enhanced sustainability outcomes, public policy and planning," Director of Xavier's Community Building Institute Liz Blume said.

"Students will have the backgrounds they need to focus careers on land use, transportation and regional systems, and environmental science students will be able to compete for management and decision making roles in organizations in energy, utilities, water and waste water and other fields," Blume said.

The faculty behind the program believes that now is the best time to begin offering the degree

because of new opportunities that have arisen in the field. They also believe the program can meet the needs for the dynamic area of urban sustainability.

"I think more and more professionals in the fields of business, public policy and planning and environmental science are going to need advanced degrees," Blume said. "I think often an undergraduate (degree) is no longer considered a terminal degree for the kinds of jobs that are developing in the sustainability fields, and we wanted to help professionals prepare for the demands of these challenging issues and careers."

The program is meant to have an impact on Cincinnati as a whole by teaching those who have an interest in sustainability in the urban context as well as using the city as an asset for learning through experience. The university will be partnering with the Green Umbrella organization and the Community Building Institute to execute the program.

"Students will be in classrooms, out in Cincinnati and will also be required to complete an internship. We want students to be deliberate about professional development and creating the kinds of networks here and across the country that will serve their employment objectives," Blume said. "One of the advantages to this program in this location is the great opportunities that will be available in the region to learn."

"This program is designed to use Cincinnati and the larger Cincinnati region as the place of exploration and case study for better understanding," Blume said.

Club Profile: Phi Alpha Delta pre-law chapter

Xavier's pre-law society recently gained official club status.

BY LIZ SLOCUM
Staff Writer

Xavier University's pre-law chapter of Phi Alpha Delta became an official campus club on Feb. 17, giving the organization the chance to recruit on campus. The chapter currently has 31 members and many more awaiting initiation, but the club is looking for more members.

With the goal of helping students interested in law learn more about law school and legal professions, Phi Alpha Delta holds events such as LSAT preparation, guest speakers and court visits. Additionally, the club participates in community service and hosts social functions throughout the school year.

The club has invited four attorneys from various law practices in the Cincinnati area to speak at an attorney panel from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 24 in Smith Hall room 308. Those presenting will share their experiences in the legal field.

"My goal for the pre-law chapter is to experience all aspects of law inside and outside of the

classroom," Rachael Rolfsen, a criminal justice major and the chapter's president, said. "This is why I make sure, as president, we have a balance of events inside the classroom and out in the real world."

Undergraduate students of all majors who have an interest in law and would like an educational experience in preparing for a career in law are encouraged to join.

The chapter has an open membership policy, a \$100 fee and a requirement to be in good standing with Xavier University.

"All in all, Xavier's pre-law chapter of Phi Alpha Delta is a great investment because members really get a taste of what law school will be like and what to expect in the legal profession," Rolfsen said.

Meetings are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday or Tuesday evenings in Smith 308 or the Conaton Learning Center room 531.

Students who are interested in joining can visit OrgSync or contact Rolfsen at rolfsenr@xavier.edu for more information.

Professor Profile: Dr. Graley Herren

BY GINA CARFAGNO
Staff Writer

Xavier University has appointed Dr. Graley Herren as the new chair of the English department. The *Newswire* sat down with him to learn more about his involvement with and hopes for the English department, his interests and his favorite books.

The Xavier Newswire: What classes do you teach and which is your favorite?

GH: I've taught more sections of Studies in Fiction and Literature & the Moral Imagination than anything else. But my areas of specialization are modern drama, modern Irish literature and modern British literature. My favorite subject to teach is Irish literature and culture, and nothing beats teaching my study abroad course, Literature & the Arts in Ireland, each summer over in Ireland.

XN: What do you hope to do for the department?

GH: As a teacher, I hope to keep offering core and majors courses that the students find valuable. I hope that my enthusiasm for the works I teach is contagious, or at the very least, I hope students can see what it looks like to care passionately and think deeply about literature. As a scholar, I hope to contribute to the growth of learning in various fields. The majority of my previous work has been on the Irish writer Samuel Beckett, but lately I've been focusing mostly on the New York writer Don DeLillo.

As chair, I hope to foster an environment in which my col-

leagues can thrive as teachers and scholars. I also hope to lead a smooth transition for English into the new Core Curriculum.

XN: What is your favorite book?

GH: To say a book is important is one thing; to say that it is

really difficult at times, but it's also stunningly powerful.

XN: How many years have you worked at Xavier?

GH: I started at Xavier in the fall of 1998, so this is my 16th year here.

XN: What is your favorite part of studying English?

GH: I say this all the time, but I've got the greatest job I can imagine and the only one I've ever really wanted. I get to choose great works of literature, read and re-read them, think, talk and write about them, and share ideas with others about it every day.

These are the things I'd want to do even if I had some other job, but I'm lucky enough to actually make a living doing what I love.

XN: What do you do in your spare time? Any hobbies?

GH: I'm a sports fan, so I go to games as often as I can, especially the Reds. I've also played fantasy baseball every season since 1988 and am pretty obsessive about it. I work out regularly at O'Connor and run during the warm months. During the summer, I also love hanging by the pool at Coney Island and reading a lot.

XN: Any fun facts?

GH: My son is named Dylan, after Bob Dylan.

XN: Anything else you would like to add?

GH: There are still a few seats available for the study abroad program this summer in Ireland — sign up and we'll have a fantastic time.



Photo courtesy of www.xavier.edu

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POLICE NOTES



Feb. 10, 8:17 a.m. – An employee reported damage that had been done to a custodial closet in Fenwick. Someone had engraved an “X” into the door.

Feb. 11, 3:13 p.m. – A student reported the theft of his or her bicycle from the bike rack outside Alter Hall.

Feb. 11, 4:34 p.m. – A student and guest soliciting inside Husman Hall were advised to get permission first and were escorted out of the building.

Feb. 12, 3:19 p.m. – A student reported that his or her engagement ring valued at approximately \$3,000 was either lost or stolen from the nursing labs at Cohen Hall.

Feb. 12, 11:56 p.m. – A student reported that he or she was harassed and assaulted by another student. Residence Life was notified.

Feb. 13, 1:14 p.m. – A student reported the theft of \$130 in cash from his or her wallet, which was left in the Hoff Dining Commons.

Feb. 14, 4:18 p.m. – A student reported the theft of \$150 in cash left in an envelope left under the door to his or her room in the Commons.

Feb. 15, 3:58 p.m. – Two students were cited in separate incidents for possession of fictitious IDs when their wallets were turned in to lost and found with the IDs inside.

Feb. 16, 12:02 a.m. – A student reported that he or she was assaulted by another student during an altercation. Residence Life was notified.

Feb. 16, 2:10 a.m. – A student reported the theft of his or her wallet and car keys left unattended in the ground floor lounge in Kuhlman Hall.

Feb. 16, 2:34 a.m. – A student reported that his or her cell phone was stolen by a nonstudent who asked to borrow it in GSC.

Feb. 16, 5:19 a.m. – Xavier Police assisted Cincinnati Police in investigating a robbery at the UDF on Dana Avenue and Montgomery Road. Both suspects were apprehended shortly after the offense.

Feb. 16, 11:41 a.m. – Xavier Police assisted Cincinnati Police in investigating a report of three vehicles broken into on Winding Way. The owners, who were all students, were notified.

NOTE OF THE WEEK

That’s cold.


Feb 16, 4:22 p.m. – A juvenile suspected of throwing snowballs at students in the O’Connor Sports Center parking lot was warned and escorted off campus.

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Road struggles continue for men’s basketball

By TIM WILMES
Sports Editor

The Xavier men’s basketball team faltered after a promising two-game win streak, losing to the Marquette Golden Eagles 81-72 last Saturday in Milwaukee.

The loss puts the Musketeers’ record at 17-8 (7-5 Big East), leaving the team in a tie for third place in the Big East.

Turnover differential and field goal percentage were the main factors in Xavier’s defeat. The Musketeers turned over the ball 19 times in front of a crowd of over 18,000, leading to 27 Marquette points.

The Golden Eagles, on the other hand, only turned the ball over five times which led to nine points for XU.



NewsWire photo by Andrew Matsushita
Freshman Myles Davis had 12 points and three rebounds in Milwaukee.



NewsWire photo by Andrew Matsushita
Junior forward Justin Martin led XU with 20 points, seven rebounds and went 6-7 at the free throw line. Xavier could not overcome miscues, losing 82-71.

Marquette’s sharp shooting percentage was another factor proved to be the Musketeers’ downfall.

The Golden Eagles 9-18 from beyond the arc and went 24-27 from the free throw line in the game.

Through Marquette’s 3-point shooting was impressive in the first meeting that resulted in a Xavier win, the Golden Eagles were more aggressive this time around and converted their free throws compared to the January game in Cintas Center when the team went 10-13 from the free throw line.

Despite the turnovers and Marquette’s specialized shooting, Xavier stayed in the game by capitalizing on 16 offensive rebounds and outrebounding the Golden Eagles 32-20.

The Musketeers also built a pair of scoring runs in the second half to cut Marquette’s lead, including a four point deficit with 2:09 remaining in the game sparked by a 3-point shot from junior forward Justin Martin.

Ultimately, this opportunity was thwarted by a missed layup from senior forward Isaiah Philmore followed by a foul on Philmore.

Marquette then pulled away in the last two minutes with more free throws, winning by a score of 81-72.

Martin was the standout for Xavier, recording 20 points and seven rebounds while also going 6-7 from the free throw line and notching the most amount of minutes of any Musketeer with 38.

Freshman guard Myles Davis capitalized on 20 minutes of play while starting guards junior Dee Davis and sophomore Semaj Christon sat out with foul trouble, recording 12 points and three rebounds. Meanwhile, Christon had trouble staying consistent throughout his 37 minutes of play, notching 10 points and going 4-7 from the free throw line but giving up five costly turnovers.

Now, the Musketeers return to Cincinnati to take on the DePaul Blue Demons at 7 p.m. tonight at Cintas Center. Xavier the favorite in this game, having won the first meeting between the two teams 84-74 on Jan. 20 in Chicago. The Musketeers will look to capitalize on the state of the Blue Demons, who have lost eight straight games and are hurting since leading scorer Cleveland Melvin was dismissed from the team.

Xavier gave up 21 turnovers to



NewsWire photo by Andrew Matsushita
Sophomore guard Christon had 10 points, six assists and five turnovers.

DePaul the last time the two teams met, and the Musketeers will need to stray away from another high turnover game to ensure a win.

“We’re not playing (the Blue Demons’) record, we’re playing DePaul, and we need to be better than them,” head coach Chris Mack said. “Whether it’s Marquette or it’s against DePaul, turnovers were an issue in both, so we’ve been working the past couple of days to rectify (those mistakes).”

If they can avoid turnovers, the Musketeers should improve to 8-5 in the Big East after tonight.

Sochi Editorial: Team USA is here to stay

By ROBERT JAMIESON
Staff Writer

For hailing myself as one of the bigger hockey fans around, I am ashamed to say that I missed the first two periods of the epic USA vs. Russia game Saturday morning.

Waking up groggy and disoriented, I stumbled over to my neighbor’s room and was able to catch some of the best hockey I have seen in a long time.

In a thrilling third period, San Jose Sharks center Joe Pavelski gave the U.S. a 2-1 lead with a wicked one-timer. Russia, however, would not go down without a fight in front of the raucous home crowd.

Just minutes later, Pavel Datsyuk of the Detroit Red Wings notched his second goal of the game to tie the score at two. After the referees reversed a goal that gave the Russians the lead and a scoreless overtime period, the game headed to a shootout.

If you hadn’t heard of T.J. Oshie before this game, there is a good chance that you have now.

Behind Oshie’s four goals in the shootout, USA defeated Russia to essentially clinch Group A and a first-round bye in the elimination round.

Although one could argue this

game was essentially meaningless, the players on the ice seemed to think otherwise.

I usually don’t believe in statement games, but USA’s victory did not go unnoticed. USA moves onto the elimination round with the No. 2 seed overall, a first round bye and the confidence that they can skate with anyone in the world, something that was seriously in question before these games started.

With injuries to Sweden and a lackluster performance so far from Canada, many believe that the U.S. should be considered the favorite to take home the gold.

The U.S. will take the ice next Wednesday morning in the quarterfinals against the winner of Slovakia and Czech Republic.

Other winter competitions have also been stellar this week during Sochi 2014. The biggest stories, or at least the events that I have been watching, have come from the men’s and women’s downhill skiing and the ice dancing competitions.

In the women’s Super-G, the story of the skiers who didn’t finish overshadowed the story of those who did.

In extremely warm conditions, 18 of the 49 skiers could not finish their runs. In the men’s Super-G,

two Americans stole the show.

Andrew Weibrecht, whose struggles since the 2010 winter games made him a long shot in these games, grabbed a silver medal with one of the best rides of his life.

American Bode Miller became the oldest Alpine medalist in Olympic history at 36 years old. Miller had much more on his mind, however. Miller dedicated the race and the bronze medal to his younger brother who died this past April.

During a very emotional post-race interview, Miller shed some tears as he expressed how much the medal meant to him.

This week also gave us the United States’ first ever gold medal in ice dancing. Americans Meryl Davis and Charlie White began skating together 17 years ago, and the symmetry, speed and power of their skating is awe-inspiring.

On Monday morning, they defeated their training partners, rivals and defending gold medal champions Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir of Canada with an overall score of 195.52.

After two weeks, the United States is tied for first in the medal count with Russia at 18 and are currently fourth place in total gold medals with five.

sochi.ru
2014



Meryl Davis and Charlie White (above) became the first Americans to ever win a gold medal in ice dancing. The pair also competed in the team skate event, in which the American team won bronze.

Medal Count Highlights: The Dutch swept the 10,000m yesterday, giving them the medal edge. The women's hockey team plays for the gold medal against Canada at noon tomorrow.

| | | | | Total | |
|--|---------------|---|---|-------|----|
| | Netherlands | 6 | 6 | 8 | 20 |
| | United States | 6 | 4 | 10 | 20 |
| | Russia | 5 | 8 | 6 | 19 |
| | Norway | 7 | 4 | 7 | 18 |
| | Canada | 4 | 9 | 4 | 17 |
| | Germany | 8 | 3 | 4 | 15 |

| Notable Winter Olympic Events Today (NBC) | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 12:00 p.m. (USA - Live) | 3-5 p.m. | 8-11:30 p.m. |
| Men’s Hockey Quarterfinal USA vs. Czech Republic | Women’s Speedskating (5000m Gold Medal) | Ladies’ Figure Skating/ Men’s Alpine Skiing |

Sports Opinion: Hope still remains for Cavaliers

By ADAM TORTELLI
Staff Writer

Entering November 2013, the Cleveland Cavaliers had one job — finish the season around .500, good enough to be in playoff contention.

Fortunately, the playoff contention is still intact due to a poor Eastern Conference outside of Indiana and Miami.

The Cavs ride a four-game winning streak into Tuesday’s matchup in Philadelphia only sitting four games out of the eighth and final spot in the playoff picture, not too bad for a team that has underperformed from the top down. Some wonder why such negativity surrounds a hot team going into the second half of the season.

Some never watched games like the 124-80 loss to a Sacramento

Kings team that is a measly 18-35 (two games worse than Cleveland).

Some also failed to encounter the Cavs in the first month of Mike Brown 2.0, where the offense was identically painful to watch, just as in the LeBron era.

Weeks passed as Kyrie Irving was forced to uncomfortably dribble around the court for 20 seconds before frantically hoisting up a long shot or throwing a disarrayed pass to one of his teammates lifelessly standing in the corner.

Now in his third year, Irving himself proclaimed that this is the most important season to justify his jump to being a superstar that will carry his team to victories or a lesser star that will

simply pack his stats.

The lack of offensive structure is the reason for players’ frustrations on and off the court. After an offseason of bringing in firepower for scor-

not all of the pieces have fit into place as they had been expected to.

Center Andrew Bynum, the biggest offseason acquisition, never panned out and was

traded for Luol Deng, hoping that his leadership would turn the team around.

Deng has put up good numbers, but a lack of leadership remains despite his presence and veteran guard Jarrett Jack — another free agency bust.

With 27 games remaining in

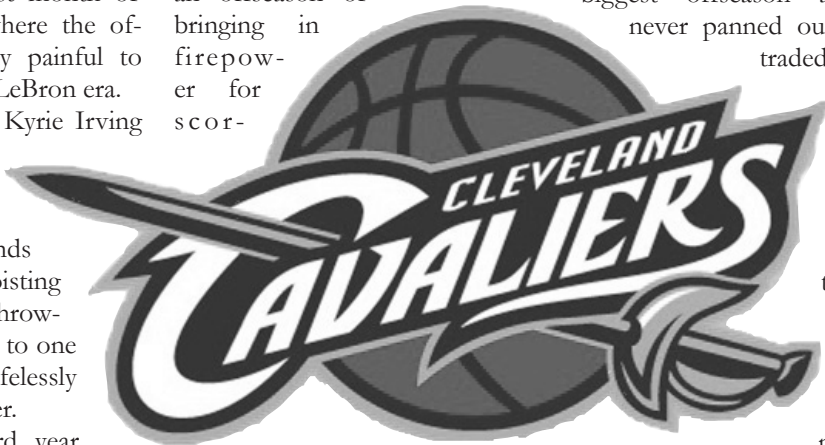
the season, the Cavs are still not completely out of the playoff picture.

When speculation of Irving demanding a trade in the offseason surfaced, the team came together and rattled off a miniature winning streak going into the All-Star break, showing that the potential for great things is definitely there.

The future of the season lies in whether or not a coherent offense can be devised by the coaching staff.

In the best case scenario, Irving learns from his All-Star game MVP and attacks the remainder of the season, accepting his role as a leader for the first time in his short career.

Worst case: Cleveland ends the season in the same place as every year in the post-LeBron era, competing for the top draft pick.



Xavier tennis nets a strong weekend in Philadelphia



Newswire photo by Greg Rust
Junior Daniella Patton went 3-1 this weekend in two Musketeer victories.

By CHRIS BEHLER
Staff Writer

Xavier’s tennis program had a strong showing this past weekend in Philadelphia. Both the men’s and women’s teams beat the St. Joseph’s Hawks on Feb. 14 and the Temple Owls on Feb. 15.

The men gave the Hawks a shellacking, winning all six singles matches and taking the doubles point in two games.

After beating St. Joe’s 7-0, the Muskies went on to defeat Temple 6-1. They took the doubles point in two games, with seniors Mesa Mei and Jimmy Roebker leading the way with a win 6-2.

It almost looked like Xavier would completely shut out Temple as well, however, in match five redshirt freshman Matt Bishop fell 6-1, 6-1 to Temple’s Kristian

Marquart.

The men went on to win 6-1 and complete a solid weekend away, improving their record to 5-5.

The Xavier women had an equally productive weekend as they took both Ws as well, and increased their record to 4-2. Just like the men, the women beat St. Joe’s in clean-sweep fashion, 7-0.

They dominated in doubles, winning 8-0, 8-3, discontinuing Brinker and Liggins’ match with XU leading 7-3.

Not one singles match went longer than two sets, as the women handled the Hawks with graceful efficiency.

The next day the women were matched up against a much more challenging Temple Owls team. Doubles went smoothly, with

teams of DiLorenzo/Patton and Westling/Wolf taking down their opponents with precision and ease, 8-4, 8-2 respectively, not allowing for Brinker and Liggins to finish their match yet again.

The singles matches went a little differently than the previous day, however, with Xavier clinching the overall win for the day, and then losing the last two matches in three sets each.

After this 5-2 win for the women, they move on to play their first Big East matchup of the season against the Butler Bulldogs on Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Upcoming for the Xavier men’s team is its match against Ball State on Feb. 19. Both matches will be played at 1 p.m. at the Western Tennis and Fitness Club in Cincinnati.

Women’s basketball falls in Big East tests

By NIKHIL JELAJI
Staff Writer

The Xavier women’s basketball team fell to Marquette, 75-54, during Saturday’s Big East matchup. Freshman guard Kayla Davis scored a career-high 14 points.

With the loss, the Musketeers moved to 8-17 overall and 3-10 in the Big East, while the Marquette Golden Eagles remained dominant, going to 17-7 overall and 8-5 in Big East play.

Davis went 5-10 from the floor, adding five assists, two steals and two rebounds. Sophomore forward Briana Glover contributed with 13 points and senior guard Ashley Wanniger finished with a team-high 17 points while shooting 6-14 from the field and 5-12 from behind the arc.

Senior guard Katie Young from Marquette had 19 points and eight rebounds. Young led the way on the boards, as the Golden Eagles were able to outrebound the Musketeers, 41-19.

Xavier kept the game close early in the first half and used a 7-2 scoring run to seize the momentum and take a 15-11 lead with 9:04 left in the first half.

Marquette answered back with an 11-4 run to take a 22-19 lead. A huge 3-pointer from Wanniger knotted the game up at 22 a piece. Both teams scored 10 points after that to end the half with a 32-32 score.

Marquette came out strong in the second half with a 22-7 run for the first six and a half minutes. Xavier was able to creep within nine points (62-53) with 6:04 left in the game but was unable to pull any closer, falling to the Golden Eagles 75-54. The Musketeers lost to Creighton 70-61 last night at Cintas Center, bringing them to a record of 8-18 and 3-11 in the Big East.

A helpful guide for misunderstood winter Olympic sports: Staff writers Robert Jamieson and Kyle Isaacs explain curling and the biathlon

By ROBERT JAMIESON
Staff Writer

While the sport of curling gets a steady stream of admiration from its viewers, it also comes with much confusion as to what is actually happening during the event. Lucky for you, the resident expert on curling is here to explain its scoring, rules and lingo.

The name curling comes from the stone’s ability to curl — or spin — when thrown. Curling is played between two opposing teams with the objective of scoring more points than the other team.

In the most basic sense, you get points when you get your stone closer to the button — the center of the ice — than your opponent’s stone. The button is the inner-most circle of the target at the end of the rink, which is called the house.

There are 10 ends in a curling match, which are similar to innings in baseball. Each team throws eight times in an end, and each player throws twice in each end with teams alternating shots. For all you math majors out there this means there are four players

on each team. If you have been watching at home, this much you should already know.

These four players make up the positions of lead, second, third and skip. The lead throws the first two stones in each end, and the second throws the third and fourth.

They are also the primary sweepers for the third throws the next two stones and the skip (captain) who throws the last two and determines the team’s strategy. If your team has the hammer, it means you throw last in that end, which is a big advantage when attempting to score points.

The hammer is only switched to the opposite team if a point is scored in that end. If the team without the hammer scores, it is a big loss for the team who had the hammer, similar to breaking serve in tennis.

Easy enough, right? Let’s get a little more technical. The two players with the brooms in their hand who follow the stone as it travels down the ice are called sweepers. Sweeping is necessary when the stone needs to pick up speed. If

you hear a lot of yelling during sweeping, it is because the skip or third is yelling, “Hurry hard,” which orders the sweepers to begin sweeping.

Often considered “chess on ice,” curling has much more of a resemblance to shuffleboard. As stated above, the primary object is to get your stone closest to the button.

Each stone you get closer than your opponent’s is worth one point. Some throws will end up short of the house because the players are attempting to throw a guard or a block. This is to either block the opponents’ stone from entering the house or to guard your stone from being bumped out of the house.

By KYLE ISAACS
Staff Writer

The biathlon is an event that dates back to 1960, combining cross-country skiing with rifle shooting. The sport began as a military training exercise for Norwegian soldiers, but has developed into an entertaining spectacle for Olympic viewers enjoy.

Though the trail distances for

each race vary, the setup is similar between events. During their trail, the competitors must stop at either two or four shooting rounds. At these points, they must complete half of the shots standing up and the other half in the “prone position” or lying down.

The contestants must hit five targets at each shooting stop, but every missed target counts against the skier’s total time. The targets are roughly 160 feet from the shooter, but fatigue and weather elements make even the simplest of shots more difficult for these athletes.

The United States has never won a medal in an Olympic biathlon event, neither in individual nor team competition. Thus far in Sochi, the closest the Americans have come to reaching the podium came during the Men’s Individual 20km, where Lowell Bailey finished in eighth place.

Though your patriotic senses may not be fulfilled during the biathlon, you should still tune in and check out this event, which is easily the most unique one of the Olympic games.

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Newswire cartoon by Digba "Digs" Coker

Letter to the Editor:
election code reform

I'd like to begin by acknowledging the dedication of the current members of the Board of Elections, especially considering the amount of complaints raised in the recent SGA Executive race. While they were respectful to the Elections Code in their enforcement of the rules, I think all four tickets would join me in saying that the Elections Code is simply inadequate in providing the regulations of a fair and respectful campaign environment. As SGA Executives, one of our first actions will be to work with the Senate in order to consider serious reform to the Elections Code.

I would propose to expand the role of the Board of Elections; to have this body become more than just judges waiting for evidence from potentially biased complaints but rather become watchdogs more fully overseeing campaign events. Campaigning for SGA is so limited in terms of time that it would require little more commitment for BOE officers to constantly survey the outdoor campaigning, indoor canvassing, and other events to ensure that rules are followed.

That said, there will need to be a great number of changes in the Elections Code in order to prevent future campaigns of this nature, as we recognize that other organizations on campus, Residence Life in particular, have also experienced great frustration with the Elections Code and how campaigns operate under it.

We look forward to working with a variety of campus offices, especially including Residence Life, as we rework the Elections Code. Our proposal for

a change in the Elections Code is primarily rooted in protecting students, both candidates and voters alike, and the community of Xavier more broadly.

This proposal also serves as the introduction for accomplishing the broader agenda that Shelby, Thomas and I campaigned for during the past few weeks. While we know certain portions of our platform such as meal exchange and ALL Card access to residence halls became popular throughout the campaign, there are still more serious issues here on campus we intend to also devote our time and resources to that perhaps weren't given the proper attention in the campaign.

For example, we are intent on keeping our campaign promise of making university committees more representative of the diversity of the Xavier community. Further, we find that the recent off-campus shooting has revealed the ineffectiveness of campus safety alert systems, and while much progress has been made in these protocols, there is still much to improve.

We look forward to meeting with the other tickets for SGA Executives over the coming days and weeks in order to see how we can best accomplish the goals contained in our agenda and those feasible ideas expressed in our fellow candidates' platforms. As we begin our transition into office, we promise to hold tight to our mission that our supporters helped share with you over the past few weeks — to improve your Xavier experience.

— Colleen Reynolds, '15

Making
campaign
reform a
priority after
a frustrating
election season

Colleen Reynolds, SGA
President-elect

Staff editorial: Board of Elections,
transparency and serving the student body

The end of campaign season for the SGA Executive election last week was not pretty. On the night before voting was to take place, a less-than-enthralling debate downplayed the fiasco that was taking place behind the scenes.

It was rumored that three of the four tickets were in danger of being disqualified, and there were allegations of sabotage, that some teams were attempting to report as many campaign violations as possible to strain the chances of their opponents.

The Board of Elections naturally had a miserable time with all of this, attempting to placate Residence Life after several residence halls were vandalized with campaign stickers, while at the same time preparing to evaluate the eligibility of teams, some with up to 11 points of violations.

The evaluative process by the Board was opaque,

to say the least. The lack of transparency with the Newswire was particularly disconcerting. We at the Newswire were cut off from any official decisions at the same time as outdoor campaigning was cancelled. More importantly, though, the student body was nearly left blind to important decisions the night before elections.

The lack of communication was unfair for the student body. Even when a situation is complex and delicate, it is the responsibility of the Board to allow (and perhaps promote) the dissemination of information about executive tickets and the state of affairs at the end of the election.

This campaign season was challenging in many regards, and in the future there need to be more definitive policies in place to promote transparency to secure the little democratic power that students have.

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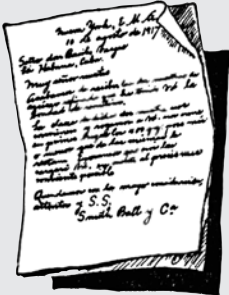
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First Amendment to the United States' Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Preserving learning during education

Engagement outside the classroom is part of the liberal arts spirit

When I first headed off to college as a bright-eyed, green-behind-the-ears freshman almost four years ago, I was given a rather strange piece of advice from a beloved teacher: “Don’t let your classes get in the way of learning.” I thought I understood what he meant and how to implement this suggestion: don’t obsess about grades and professors, embrace the intellectual life, continue to read broadly, converse with smart people and invest yourself purely for the love of the thing you’re studying. Easy enough.

Yeah, right.

For those of us who live in reality, this sounds simple for about 60 seconds until the first syllabus hits, sounds difficult but feasible until the second hits, impossible but admirably idealistic by the third and not even desirable by the

time the first paper assignment rears its ugly head.

We have so much to *do*, who can think about *learning*? Who even cares by the one month mark? Breaking news: scholarly enthusiasm found dead, murdered in cold blood. The killer? The term paper, in the library, with Chicago Style.

Go to lectures that sound exciting? No time for that. Learn things that are interesting but not on the test? I’ll do that when pigs fly and Alter Hall is rebuilt. Read a book on the side? You might as well ask Michael Bay to make a semi-intelligent movie — not happening.

And in my mind this is really a shame. Call me a sap, but I believe in something called the “life of the mind.” Some call it a myth, others call it pretentious and still others call it slow and painful torture, but I think it’s an ideal towards which

we ought to strive. Embracing ideas, exploring our interests, ex-


even if not always the *plausibility*.

Strangely, I have found that the unavoidable decrease in motivation that accompanies the spring of senior year (it is truly unavoidable, my friends) has actually done wonders for my intellectual stimulation.

Now that I’m at the point where I know how to get a good grade, and can also recognize that the world will not collapse into a quantum singularity if I do not, I can take some time away from studying to read that book I’ve had next to my bed for three years. I can push off writing a paper by teaching myself linear algebra (yes, I have problems, I know). For the first time in my life I’m trying to make sense of reading poetry — speaking of which, if anyone understands T.S. Eliot, talk to me.

In some way, having this newfound sense of freedom to *learn*

makes me wonder why I was unable to embrace such freedom all along. I don’t mean to get heavy-handed here, but if I could offer one sage piece of advice — like my teacher before me — it would be this: try to enjoy your studies as best you can. You have to study anyway, so you might as well try to learn, and to love learning.



Michael Petrany is a senior majoring in biology and philosophy from Huntington, WV.

Rape culture and the language we choose

“Hey, how was your day?”

“Terrible.

I totally got raped by my econ test.”

It’s a conversation that many of us have every day and see nothing even remotely problematic in it, and personally, I find that to be incredibly troubling.

I’m pretty sure taking your econ test was consensual. I find it difficult to believe that your test forced itself upon you. It did not assault you, nor did it make you take part in sexual activity outside of your consent. It was not violent or threatening.

Language is such an integral part of our culture that on a day-to-day basis, we barely even notice it. We allow words to slip by us unnoticed and unacknowledged, regardless of their meanings or societal implications. Typically, we view our language as being shaped by our culture, but it shapes our society as much as it reflects it.

A bar in Spokane, Wash. — The Daiquiri Factory — recently named a drink on its menu “Grape Date Kool Aid.” The name itself is offensive enough.

Marketing date rape? Really?

But what is perhaps more disturbing are the reactions surrounding the drink’s name.

According to the Huffington Post, over 100 people protested the bar’s choice in naming the drink and its implications. The bar responded to the protests stating, “We just think everyone simply needs a little daiquiri therapy.”

It’s not that their response is outside the norm. Feminists — and socially-aware individuals in general — have been told they’re being ‘too sensitive’ for decades now. It’s easier to think that way: no need to worry about their ramblings, they’re just a bunch of bleeding-heart, free-spirited hippies whose feelings are hurt at the slightest of things.

Personally, I disagree. The language we use has power, be it for better or worse, and refusing to acknowledge that harms those individuals most severely marginalized by it.

How often do we really stop and think about what we’re implying with the words we use in our everyday conversations?

When you use “rape” as a means to discuss any situation that you find less than desirable, it

lessens the severity with which we consider acts of sexual violence. If you were a survivor of sexual violence, could you imagine how it would feel to have your situation compared to taking a difficult test

“Language is such an integral part of our culture that on a day-to-day basis, we barely even notice it.”

Sabrina Brown

or a bad loss in basketball?

Between 20 and 25 percent of women and 3 percent of men will experience an attempted or completed sexual assault during their college experience. That means that for approximately a quarter of your peers, sexual violence is not a fun way to talk about something you find to be relatively unpleasant; it is a harsh, traumatizing,

ongoing reality. Mocking these incidents is perpetuating a society in which rape, violence and mistreatment are accepted.

Our colloquial use of the word “rape” speaks to a larger issue in our culture: we refuse to acknowledge the excess of violence, particularly that which is sexual in nature.

We live in a society that expects violence — both sexual and not — and often, our expectations are met and exceeded. When we expect violence and accept the culture that surrounds it, we create a self-fulfilling prophecy in the worst possible way. It is this mentality that leads to the continuation of rape culture in our society, and the Xavier community is certainly no exception to that.

It’s no secret that Xavier has a less-than-stellar history when it comes to sexual assault, to put it lightly. We cannot change the decisions of previous administrators or conduct boards, but we do have power over our language.

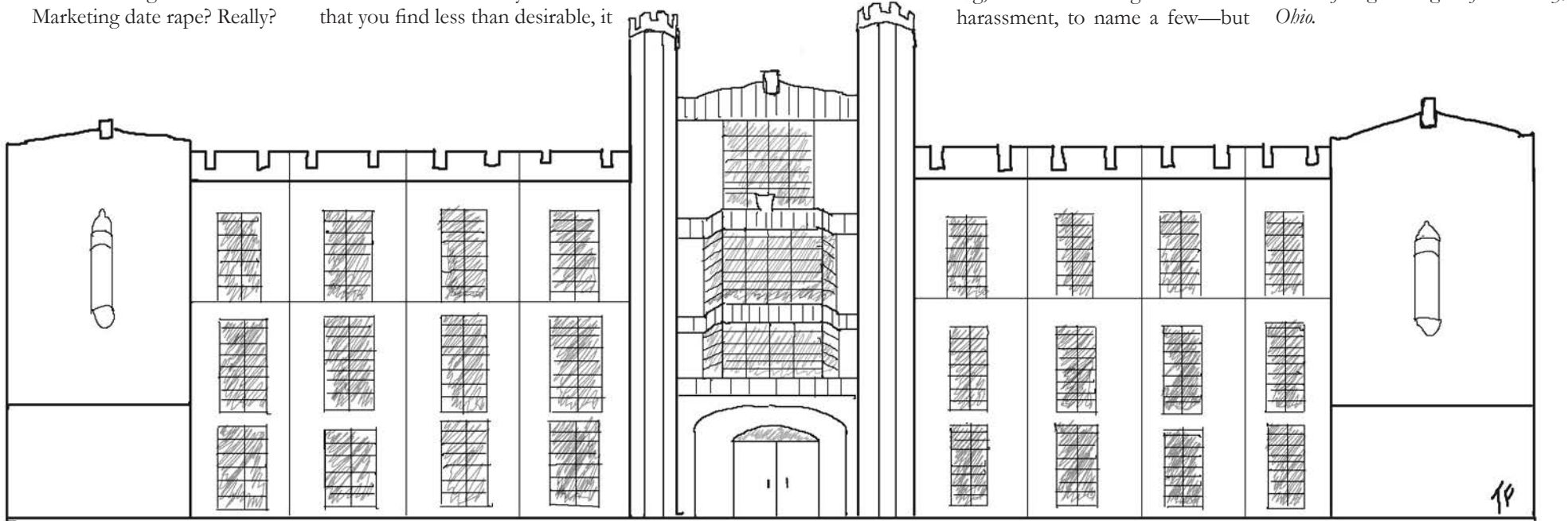
It’s something that seems minute when compared to larger facets of rape culture — slut shaming, victim blaming and street harassment, to name a few—but

it is something that each and every individual has the power to change.

You have the ability to say, “My econ test didn’t go well,” as opposed to saying you were “raped” by it. The language we choose to use is a medium in which each and every one of us has agency, and we should use it to improve the culture in which we live, not perpetuate oppressive societal attitudes. And when we’re talking about the language surrounding rape, the power of language extends beyond working towards social change and has real consequences in affecting our peers.



Sabrina Brown is the Editor-in-Chief of the Newswire. She is a senior majoring in English from Shelby, Ohio.



V-Day students present “The Vagina Monologues”

Female students perform to increase social awareness and raise money for injured women

BY ALEX SPINDLER
Staff Writer

The active push to end violence against women of all ages continues with Xavier University’s performance of Eve Ensler’s “The Vagina Monologues.”

This episodic play, originally performed in 1996, chronicles the lives of women and their various perspectives on female reproduction, orgasms, menstruation, sexual intercourse, childbirth and even genital mutilation.

A performance of this well-known piece of theater often falls in line with a national event to celebrate female sexuality entitled “V-Day.”

V-Day is celebrated by various college campuses across the country.

Traditionally held in the late weeks of February to early weeks of March, the event is meant to raise awareness of stigmas women face in the sex culture.

Sophomore Amelia Ryczek, organizer for Xavier University’s performance, describes her process for selecting women to per-

form these extremely invasive, highly personal and yet all-too-important soliloquies.

“During our first meeting I would like to do a read-through of all the different pieces and talk to everyone about their own connections with some of the issues, situations and experiences discussed in the monologues,” Ryczek said.

Much like last year’s performance, a group of eight to 10 women come together for one evening under the tutelage of a moderator and perform each monologue one-by-one.

Some monologues spark hilarity while others bring tears.

Surprisingly enough, “The Vagina Monologues” inspired a pervasive movement to discuss rape culture and sexual mistreatment of women due to its controversial content.

Throughout its 18-year run, many have not been wildly receptive to an opus using vocabulary like “coochie snorcher.”

Many prominent feminists and even university officials across the country have stated that

“The Vagina Monologues” and its pending discussions only perpetuate domestic violence and further sexual promiscuity among women.

Many politically and religiously conservative locales have gone so far as to ban any performance of the play for fear of riots ensuing.

However, those who have witnessed the play and its compelling messages would beg to differ.

““The Vagina Monologues’ are (sic) so important because too often the stories and perspectives of women are overlooked in favor of those of men,” Ryczek said.

“I think that ‘The Vagina Monologues’ give women an opportunity to talk about how they feel about these topics in relation to their own experiences.”

“The Vagina Monologues” will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 14 in the Cintas Center Atrium.

Tickets are selling for \$3, and all proceeds will go to Women Helping Women, an organization that gives support to abused women.

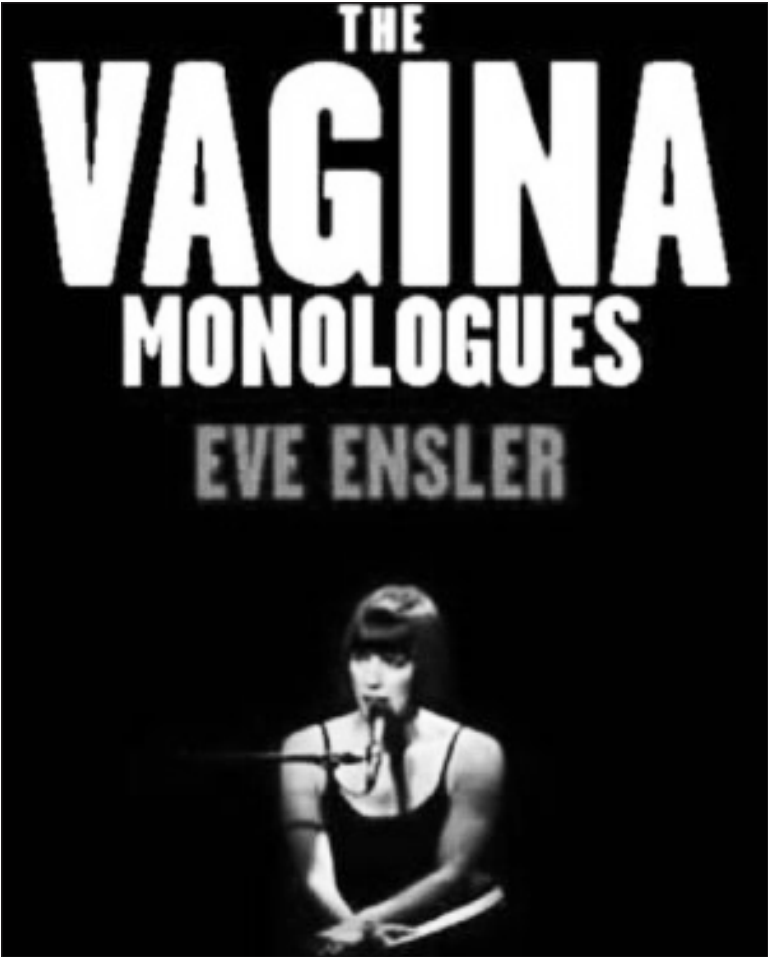


Photo courtesy of cloudfront.net

“Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom” excellently portrays a life of leadership

BY BRENDAN KELLY
Staff Writer

Xavier Student Activities Council in conjunction with Leadership Week showed the film, “Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom,” yesterday, Feb. 19.

Despite lackluster attendance, the film is a must-see.

The film stars Idris Elba as Nelson Mandela and Naomi Harris as Winnie Mandela.

Harris steals the show despite playing a supporting role.

The film chronicles Nelson Mandela’s life from his childhood in a rural village up to his inauguration as the first democratically-elected president of South Africa.

Students may only remember Mandela in the later years of his life, but this film does an excellent job bringing to life Mandela’s formative years as a member of the African National Congress.

At this point in Mandela’s life, he resorted to using violent action in an attempt to thwart the unjust

laws of the oppressive apartheid government, leading to Mandela’s arrest and imprisonment for 27 years on Robben Island.

In addition to excellent cinematography, the scenes inside Robben Island are captivating, giving viewers a brief glimpse into Mandela’s trials and tribulations while in prison.

In one particularly moving scene, Mandela’s daughter is finally able to visit her father for the first time at age 16.

Though they can’t touch each other through the glass, she promises her father that they will one day embrace each other in a hug. Though Mandela’s story is known only to varying degrees, it was beautiful to see it come to life through film.

Many in the audience teared up when Mandela embraced his wife Winnie and daughters after Mandela was released from prison.

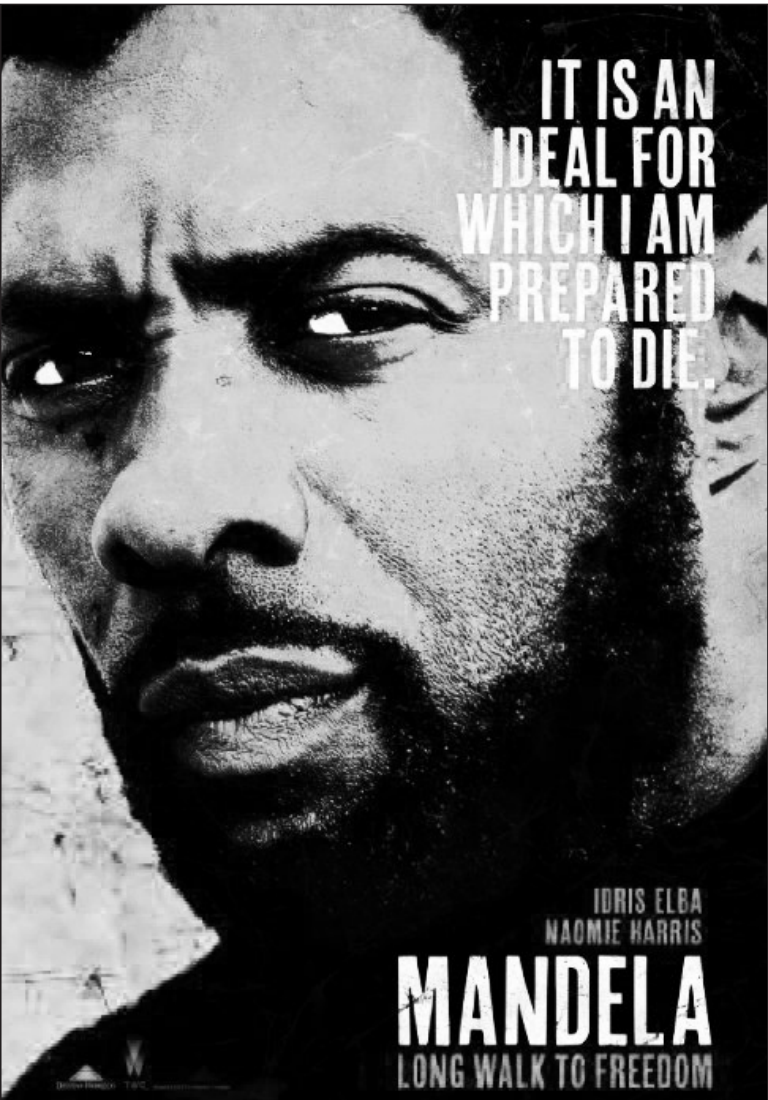


Photo courtesy of imdb.com

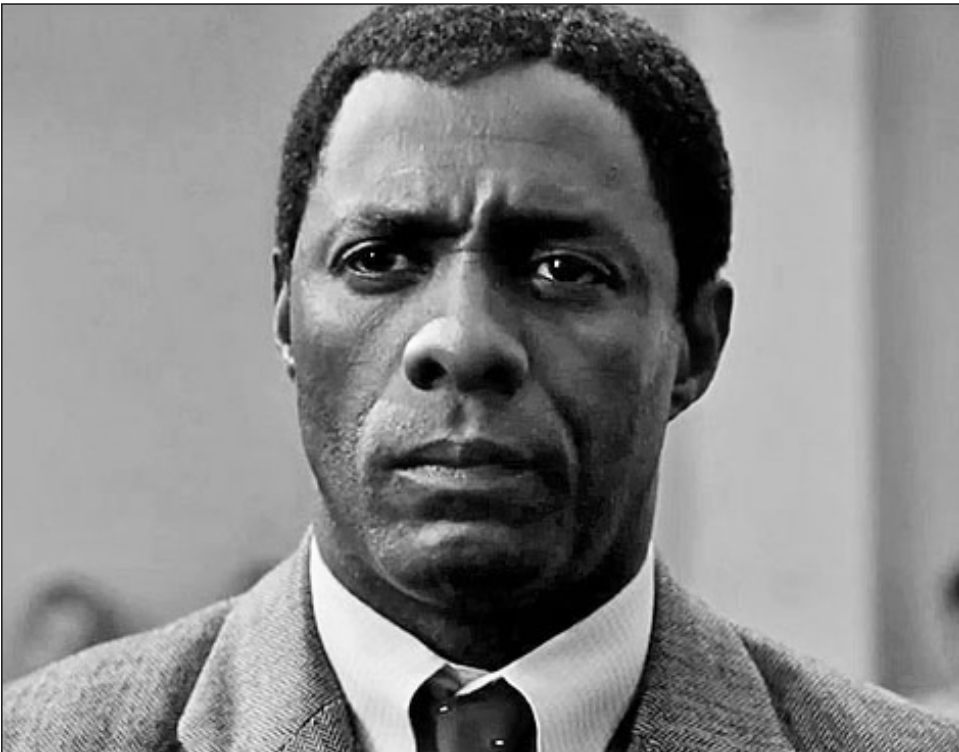


Photo courtesy of napavalleyfilmfest.org

Idris Elba plays Nelson Mandela in Justin Chadwick’s “Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom.”

Director Justin Chadwick was faced with the task of authentically portraying Mandela’s story, but this film met the challenge.

Newswire Rating:

★★★★☆

"From White Plains" showcases strong acting yet talks around issues

BY ALEX SPINDLER
Staff Writer

Michael Perlman's social drama, "From White Plains," opened last weekend as part of the Xavier University Department of Music and Theatre's second official season.

Not so much polemic as it is eye-opening, "Plains" follows the lives of four thirty-something men living in a social media-driven world and paying the price for deeds once done.

Ethan Price (Patrick McWilliams) and his best friend, John (Mac Blais), have just witnessed a young screenwriter, Dennis Sullivan (Sean Burlingame), accept an Academy Award for best screenplay for an aptly-named biopic entitled "White Plains."

During his speech, Dennis publicly decries the actions of bullies everywhere who torment homosexual youths, including Ethan's behavior from his high school years.

This consequential reveal dramatically affects all members of the cast, including Dennis's long-time boyfriend, Gregory (Patrick Phillips), as they grapple with their past actions, fix the relationships of the present and look to a more conscious and positive future.

As for the presentation, the



Left to right: Patrick McWilliams, Patrick Phillips, Sean Burlingame and Mac Blais in "From White Plains."

quartet assembled cohesive, mature performances that elevated trite material.

McWilliams, in particular, delivered a stoic, tried-and-true Ethan that made viewers consider who the real bully is and who is the bullied.

Burlingame's character contrasted McWilliams' with a very passionate, driven Dennis who struggles with his romantic and

professional life.

Blais and Phillips nicely round-off the cast with excellent supporting turns as John and Gregory respectfully.

Concerning the physical aspects, the show's technical lighting, sound and set design meshed together beautifully. Alice Trent's lighting, in particular, was a highlight of the show.

Though the production of

the show was put together in a very professional manner, the content left something to be desired. Perlman's script — written in collaboration with original cast members Craig Wesley Divino, Karl Gregory, Jimmy King and Aaron Rossini — offers quick-paced, stichomythia-like dialogue that often succeeds, yet brushes over emotional catharses in other areas.

The fast word play didn't always give the actors time to breathe when a passionate wallop was needed.

However, the drama remains timely and speaks to a contemporary audience that buries its nose in technology and hides behind computer screens for protection.

To the theme of bullying, the play addresses some important aspects yet fails to follow them up with any provocative insight.

"From White Plains" tackles various issues such as the struggles that the LGBTQ community faces in this day and age and what it means to conform to society when you carry such baggage behind you.

Phillips' character, Gregory, in particular makes the claim, "I just want to be normal." Yet, "Plains" remains static throughout, and its written content does not present any new perspective on a prevalent, highly-discussed matter.

Although a bit rushed at times, "From White Plains" succeeds as a great night at the theater.

For a regional premiere straight out of New York City, it is an event production that may not inspire any new perspectives on its themes but will tug at your heartstrings with satisfying performances.

Newswire Rating:



Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy" ushers in new possibilities for franchise

BY GRANT VANCE
Staff Writer

"Guardians of the Galaxy" is an upcoming Marvel film that will soon draw a lot of attention.

The film will act as part of Marvel's "Phase 2," accompanying "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" in its newly adopted two-film-a-year line-up in order to usher out new films and expand the ever growing cinematic universe.

This is a risky movie for Marvel, considering "Guardians of the Galaxy" is a little-known comic book property.

"Guardians of the Galaxy" can best be described as a space superhero flick/sci-fi thriller in the same respects as "Star Wars."

The film follows the un-

likely team of Star Lord (Chris Pratt), Drax the Destroyer (Dave Bautista), Gamora (Zoe Saldana), Groot (Vin Diesel), and Rocket Raccoon (Bradley Cooper), a ragtag mix of humans and aliens, all joined together by the common force of a universe threatening villain, Ronan.

The film will usher in important changes for the superhero genre.

For instance, it shows Marvel stretching out of its comfort zone for a lesser known franchise, meaning more obscure fan favorites are sure to follow

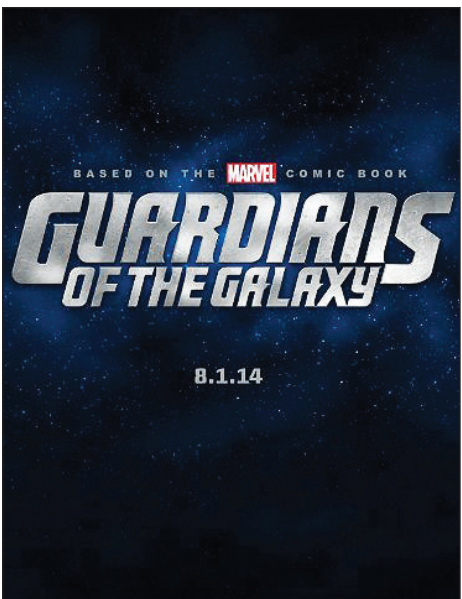


Photo courtesy of rottentomatoes.com

if "Guardians of the Galaxy" is successful.

Marvel is using "Guardians of the Galaxy" in order to set up the next "Avengers" film.

This has already been subtly used with the post-credits scene in "Thor: The Dark World," but it is interesting to consider Marvel using such an experimental film in order to start fully characterizing their looming villain, Thanos.

James Gunn's "Guardians of the Galaxy" hits theaters Aug. 1, not long after "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" on April 4th.



Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy" will star Chris Pratt, Bradley Cooper and others.

Know Theatre's "Pluto" Staff review

BY TATUM HUNTER
Staff Writer



Elizabeth (Annie Fitzpatrick) and Bailey (Wesley Carmen) in "Pluto."

In a time when mass shootings are becoming terrifyingly commonplace and gun violence is at the forefront of many Americans' minds, The Know Theatre could not have chosen a more heart-wrenching look at society than Steve Yockey's "Pluto."

The show follows a single mother's desperate search for normalcy as she tries to reconnect with her withdrawn teenage son.

The magical elements tempered and accentuated the heaviness of the subject at hand, depending on the moment. All in all, Pluto is definitely a show worth seeing before its close on the 22nd.

The Good

- Well-cast, strong performers.
- Easy communication of a painful, emotional story.
- Breathtaking lighting and set design.

The Bad

- Difficult to discern the fantasy aspects from moments of reality, making it hard to follow.
- Drawn-out ending

Newswire Rating:

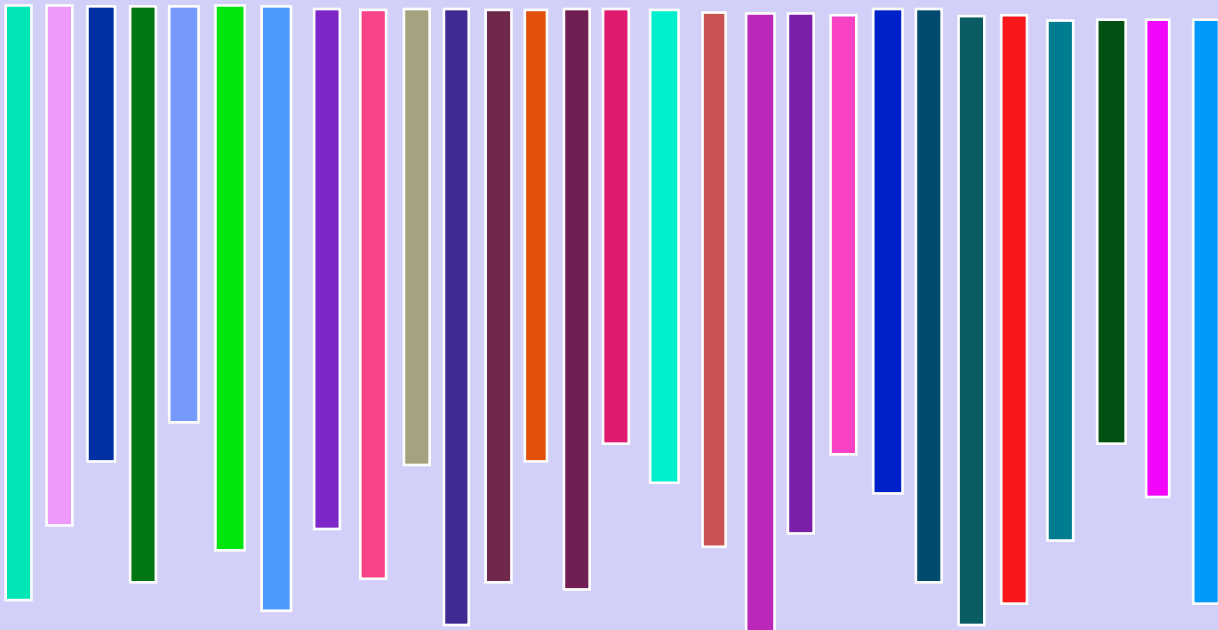


Form

1040

U.S. Individual Income Tax Return

2014



BY HOLLIS CONNERS
Features Editor

Xavier University VITA Program makes a difference in the community.

Xavier accounting students who have completed the Intro to Taxation class have the opportunity to be part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) on campus. The program is a free service for low income tax payers, elderly taxpayers and students who need assistance completing simple tax returns.

Those who participate are all student volunteers working for the taxpayers in Norwood, Evanston and Avondale.

VITA is sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and provided in over 12,000 various locations across the country.

The program began in 1969 with the goals of helping low to moderate income workers with their tax returns.

“This program gives back to the community because some people might not be able to afford to pay an accountant to do their taxes,” VITA Program participant, Erica Mazzoni said.

“We ensure they are receiving the maximum refund possible while following all the tax laws. People who come in are appreciative of what we have to offer them. Many come back year after year.”

The program also provides opportunities for accounting students to gain firsthand experience and practical knowledge.

“The accounting majors involved gain real-world experience by using real tax software and

doing actual returns,” Mazzoni said.

Along with residents in the surrounding community, Xavier students are welcome to make appointments for their own tax returns with the VITA Program.

After scheduling an appointment, the taxpayers meet the student volunteer in Cintas Center banquet rooms one and two. The student then proceeds to help the taxpayer complete his or her tax returns.

All taxpayers have to bring their social security card and the social security cards of their spouse and dependents. The social security numbers on last year’s tax returns or the W-2’s are not sufficient.

The taxpayer also needs a photo ID, all W-2 forms and 1099’s or other income and expense documentation. Taxpayers can also bring last year’s tax return, but it is not required.

After the student volunteer prepares the tax return, those who participated last year review the work.

All appointments take place at either 5:30 or 6:30 p.m. on Mondays. The official dates are February 17 and 24, March 10, 17, and 31 and April 7 and 14. They are on a first come, first serve basis.

Those wishing to make an appointment can call (513)745-2828 or email vita@xavier.edu.

“We ensure they are receiving the maximum refund possible and that they will not miss any of the deductions they qualify for.”

Erica Mazzoni, ‘15



Things
you may
NOT know
about taxes

75 years ago
the instructions for
Form 1014
were two pages long.
Now they are
206 pages long

57 percent
of returns
are done by
paid
preparers

Since 2001
there have been
over 4500
changes
to the tax code

The IRS
recieves over
140 million
(individual) tax
returns
every year

The biggest tax
reductions are for
state and local
governments

Information courtesy of forbes.com